

February 20, 1976

Senator Rumery is sorry that he brought this bill back to the Legislature but I am not and I certainly am not sorry to stand up here and second his motion and let's move this building along.

PRESIDENT: Senator Shirley Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I feel that it is important that the words that I am going to say be placed on the record. What is the square footage cost? If we had a program statement, we would have that information. How much should it cost to remodel a house? Before I decide how much it will cost, I need to know whether you are going to use the same kitchen cupboards and simply repaint them or whether you are going to replace them with new kitchen cabinets. How can anyone decide how much we should spend without a program statement? I would like to remind the legislators that during our special session, we freed up the funds for a program statement. Do you remember when we came back in October? We still do not have a program statement. It could cost one-half the amount which is listed in LB 634 or it could cost twice the amount. I would like to know before I vote on this measure.

PRESIDENT: Senator Rumery, would you like to respond to that inquiry.

SENATOR RUMERY: Yes, Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I indicated in the opening statements that the Attorney General's office indicated we could not use the \$8,000 until this bill was approved. Now if I misunderstood that office or officers of the DAS, then I am sorry about that but the estimate, first of all, Senator Marsh, the bill states that the figure shall not exceed \$760,000 or whatever the amount is plus the \$500,000 for the facility. It has been estimated that the cost per square foot of this facility, which includes three buildings by the way and a total of 43,000 square feet. Those of you who had some contact with the land know there are 43,560 square feet per acre. So we are getting nearly an acre of land under these roof, space under these roofs. It has been estimated that the total cost for the remodeling and the purchase of the building will probably run about \$16.00 per square foot. If I understand the contractors, now such a facility would run in the neighborhood of \$30 to \$35 per square foot.

PRESIDENT: Senator Anderson.

SENATOR ANDERSON: Mr. President, members of the body, I think the issue surrounding this particular proposal have been well discussed in the past in the Legislature. I think that the answers that have been given have been adequate and I think what we are proposing here right now is a measure to correct some language that has already been substantially approved by the Legislature. I simply hope that we will be able to go ahead and approve this legislation and get it on its way and simply